



REMARKS OF WILLIAM J. CASEY

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

AT PRESENTATION OF

AGENCY SEAL MEDALLION TO SENATOR BARRY M. GOLDWATER

Monday, 4 August 1986, 5:00 p.m.

CIA Headquarters, North Cafeteria



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This evening we honor a man who has made great contributions to our American Intelligence Community through his unflagging support in the United States Congress, and his uncompromising public stand that U.S. intelligence should be the best in the world.

We know that Senator Barry Goldwater has been an elemental force in our nation for more than a quarter of a century, shaping and articulating a philosophy of peace and progress through strength and freedom. We know that his wisdom and eloquence, his statesmanship and political skills have played an historic role injecting this philosophy into the laws of our land and the hearts of our people.

But there is much about Barry Goldwater that is not so well known and I intend to take this occasion to tell you a little about the private Barry Goldwater. He is a man of amazing versatility. A man of many parts. An aviator, starting with the Army National Guard in the 1930s, he served as a pilot with the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II, flying the hump between China and India. He kept on flying and he has flown every known type of airplane and just recently qualified for a license as a helicopter pilot. A musician, he plays a lousy trombone. His trombone is known as the Goldwater deterrent. This comes from threatening his friends that if they don't behave, he will play his trombone.

He is a gadgeteer, skilled in electronics. If you invite him to your house for the weekend, he is apt to install a doorbell playing 20 different tunes before he leaves. His automobile has so many gadgets and gauges you think you are in the cockpit of a 747.

He is an avid ham radio operator. One year he gave his wife a \$10,000 radio antenna as a Christmas present, but Mrs. Goldwater has had lots of experience in handling Barry. The next year for Christmas she gave him a sable coat.

He is an accomplished photographer with professional skills sufficient to qualify him as a member of the Society of American Photographers.

He is a scholar, a historian with deep knowledge of the American Civil War and history of Arizona, a geographer who knows the state of Arizona like the back of his hand.

I can tell you that the gruff Barry Goldwater is a facade. Behind that stone face is a heart of putty. Barry is generous and always ready to reach out and help a friend or acquaintance in trouble. During the dark days of the Vietnam War, Barry was on the air night after night working his shortwave radio, taking hundreds of calls from American soldiers in Vietnam every week and patching them through to their parents and sweethearts at home--all at his own expense.

Beyond these elements of personal charm and accomplishment, what brings us here to do honor to Barry Goldwater tonight is his distinguished decade of service on committees appointed to oversee the intelligence efforts of this country. In this capacity, Senator Goldwater proved himself time and again to be a vigorous defender of the intelligence family. For example, when hysteria was sweeping the country about alleged intelligence improprieties, Senator Goldwater was one of only three courageous and farsighted members of

the Church Committee to firmly oppose the release of that committee's report on the National Security Agency. Later, he fought vigorously to prevent the budgetary cutbacks and hiring freezes that he saw were aimed squarely at paralyzing the nation's intelligence capabilities.

His tenure as Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence, which began in 1981, was marked by a continuing improvement in the Intelligence Community's ability to do its work. Largely as a result of his efforts, the slow but steady recovery and buildup of our capabilities has enabled us to better track Soviet weaponry and activities around the world. Senator Goldwater let it be known on the Hill and on Pennsylvania Avenue that he considered intelligence to be America's first line of defense, and vital to our ability to meet the challenges of a complex and dangerous world.

Senator Goldwater backed up his words with deeds, including solid legislation that greatly benefited the Intelligence Community. His leadership was crucial in securing the passage of the 1982 Intelligence Identities Protection Act that protects our intelligence officers and sources overseas. He personally introduced other legislation in 1983 that led to the eventual passage of the Central Intelligence Agency Information Act of 1984. This legislation safeguards our operational and technical files from unwarranted search. Moreover, he played a vital role in securing the enactment of a series of Intelligence Community budget authorizations that were essential to the rebuilding of the intelligence capabilities of the United States.

Senator Goldwater's stewardship of the Select Committee on Intelligence has shown that Congressional oversight of our nation's intelligence activities can be both tough and fair, responsible and supportive, rigorous yet secure.

We have found that we could always depend on Barry to be utterly direct when he thought there were breakdowns or deficiencies in the intelligence oversight process. On this as well as most any other subject, Barry has never been shy about making his views clear and to the point. I have always admired that quality in him and his candor and honesty have been especially valuable to us at CIA. On the many occasions when I have asked for his private advice he has offered it in plain and unvarnished fashion, and in most cases he proved to be right. That should be no surprise to anyone--in the past few years we have seen many of Barry's long-held ideas about government put into practice and shown to work. Some of these ideas weren't popular or fashionable when he first expressed them, but he always followed his conscience and spoken his mind. He has truly proven to be, as President Reagan has frequently said, a man ahead of his time. In so many ways, he has earned the country's respect and affection perhaps more than any other politician of his time.

One final personal note. I cannot let this occasion go by without expressing my personal appreciation and that of our intelligence officers working around the world for the many times Barry dropped in on our missions in his travels around the world. I can't tell you how many times I heard how important those visits were, how much his talks with our officers encouraged and inspired them and contributed to their understanding of the importance of their work to our national security and an increasingly dangerous world.

And so as we celebrate this evening Barry's remarkable 40-year career as a public servant, I thank all of you for coming to pay tribute to Senator Barry Goldwater--soldier, statesman, practical visionary and patriot.
